

the input devices can be moved to a specific location of the casing based on user preference. Similarly, one or more of such input devices may be resized or reshaped by user input, operation of an associated electronic device, software, firmware, other hardware, and so on. Thus, the input structure may be said to be dimensionally configurable insofar as input devices (or regions) on its surface may be moved and/or resized and/or reshaped.

**[0036]** Additionally, and as discussed herein, the components or layers forming the force-sensitive input structure are substantially surrounded by and/or enclosed within the casing of the electronic device. As a result, no portion of the force-sensitive input structure is exposed, except a contact surface. As a result, the casing can be formed from a solid piece of material, which may prevent damage to the internal components of the electronic device and/or the components of the force-sensitive input structure.

**[0037]** These and other embodiments are discussed below with reference to FIGS. 1A-15B. However, those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the detailed description given herein with respect to these figures is for explanatory purposes only and should not be construed as limiting.

**[0038]** FIGS. 1A and 1B show an electronic device 100, including a configurable, force-sensing input structure 200, according to embodiments. In a non-limiting example, as shown in FIGS. 1A and 1B, electronic device 100 may be a laptop computer. However, it is understood that electronic device 100 may be configured as any suitable electronic device that may utilize configurable, force-sensitive input structure 200 (hereafter, “input structure 200”).

**[0039]** As discussed herein, force-sensing input structure 200 is formed within a casing of electronic device 100, and specifically, below a contact portion of the casing of the electronic device 100 in order for a user of electronic device 100 to interact and/or utilize input structure 200. Force-sensitive input structure 200 is a configurable structure that may take the form or shape of multiple, distinct input devices or components for electronic device 100. As a result, input structure 200 of electronic device 100 provides unique input devices or components to a user of electronic device 100 that may not be typically associated with electronic device 100 and/or require additional, auxiliary components that are “add-ons” and/or are not integral with electronic device 100. In a non-limiting example, and by comparison to a conventional a laptop which may only include a standard “QWERTY” keyboard and a track pad, electronic device 100 having force-sensitive input structure 200 can include a QWERTY keyboard, a track pad, a standalone numeric keypad, a special characters or glyph keypad, and/or enlarged directional keys portion.

**[0040]** Furthermore, because force-sensitive input structure 200 can be configured as a variety of input devices or components, and may be switched between various input devices or components, the positioning of the input devices formed by force-sensitive input structure 200 may be customizable within electronic device 100. That is, where force-sensitive input structure 200 is formed below a portion or substantially the entire contact portion of the casing of electronic device 100, the positioning of the input devices formed by force-sensitive input structure 200 can be moved on the contact surface. As a result, track pads can be moved to a specific side of the contact portion of the casing or can be placed above a keyboard formed by force-sensitive input structure 200 when a user is utilizing electronic device 100 to

primarily type using the keyboard. Likewise, the size and/or shape of a region of the input structure 200 may be configured by a user. For example, a user may specify a particular area, region or the like to accept input. In other words, the input structure may be dimensionally configurable.

**[0041]** Additionally, and as discussed herein, the components or layers forming force-sensitive input structure 200 are substantially surrounded by and/or enclosed within the casing of electronic device 100. As a result, no portion of force-sensitive input structure 200 is exposed and/or positioned between the external and internal portion of the casing forming electronic device 100. As a result, the contact portion of the casing which is interacted with to utilize force-sensitive input structure 200 can be formed from a solid piece of material and/or may not have any holes, recess or ingresses within the internal portion of the casing of electronic device 100. The solid casing may prevent damage to the components of electronic device 100 and/or the components of force-sensitive input structure 200 caused by direct exposure to shock events (e.g., drops) and/or exposure to environmental or external contaminants (e.g., dust, water, and so on).

**[0042]** In many embodiments, the force-sensitive input structure may be a zero travel input structure. As discussed above, the term “zero travel” used herein, may not be related to the absence of movement, but rather, may more accurately defined as imperceptible or unrecognizable movement of components of input structure 200 by a user of electronic device 100. As discussed herein, components of electronic device 100 and/or input structure 200 may deform to provide an input to electronic device 100. However, the deformation of these components may not be perceived, felt or detected by the user when interacting with electronic device 100 and/or input structure 200.

**[0043]** Electronic device 100 may include a casing 102. Casing 102 may take the form of an exterior, protective casing or shell for electronic device 100 and the various internal components (for example, input structure 200) of electronic device 100. Casing 102 may be formed as distinct components that may be configured to be coupled to one another. In a non-limiting example, as shown in FIGS. 1A and 1B, casing 102 may be formed from a contact layer or portion 104, and a base layer or portion 106 coupled to contact portion 104. Contact layer or portion 104 and base layer or portion 106 may be coupled to one another along a seam line 108 of electronic device 100. As discussed herein, contact portion 104 including input structure 200 may be interacted with (e.g., touched) by a user for providing input and/or interacting with electronic device 100. Base portion 106 may provide structural support to input structure 200 and electronic device 100, as discussed herein. Contact layer or portion 104 may extend across only a part of a casing or may extend across all of a casing. For example, contact layer or portion 104 may extend across part of a single surface of the casing 102, or may extend across all of a surface, or may extend across multiple surfaces. Further, a single device (and/or a single casing) may have multiple contact portions 104.

**[0044]** Contact layer 104 and base layer 106 may be formed from any suitable material that provides a protective casing or shell for electronic device 100 and the various components included in electronic device 100. Additionally, contact layer 104 and base layer 106 of casing 102 may be formed from distinct materials or the same material having distinct physical dimensions and/or characteristics to aid in the function of each portion of casing 102. In a non-limiting example, contact